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The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Inside
this week:



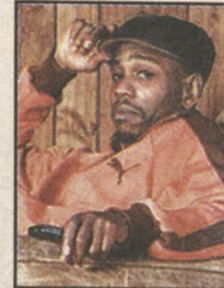
Bush gives ultimatum to Saddam; the U.S. prepares for war.

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Larry Henderson, Athlete of the Week.

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David Chappelle brings comedy tour to HBCUs.

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Panthers trounce Alcorn, lose tourney

By Dustin Daniel

Panther Staff

With most students away from campus for the start of spring break, one might expect that the men's basketball team's last game of the season at the Baby Dome would lack its usual ruckus and vigor.

That was not the case, as the Panthers treated those who remained on campus that night to a hard-earned 75-64 victory over the Alcorn State Braves (12-18, 10-8), giving the Panthers the top position in the regular season of the SWAC competition.

After that resounding victory, the Panthers failed to produce the same results in the SWAC tournament played last Friday in Birmingham, Alabama, losing 64-71, to the same Alcorn team.

In the final game of the regular season, Prairie View (16-11, 14-4) jumped to an early 10-2 lead behind the hot hand of senior guard Gregory Burks (3-4 fgs during that stretch). The Panthers

led throughout the first half, building a lead as many as 15 at 33-18 with 1:59, a product of the torrid pace of the first half. PV entered the locker room with a 37-25 lead behind the hot hand of Burks (13 points on 5-9 fgs) and a scorching 51.7% from the field while holding Alcorn State leading scorer Brian Jackson to 5-14 from the field.

The second half brought about change in the pace of the game. The up-and-down pace of the first half was replaced by the grind-it-out flow of the second half. Alcorn began to steadily trim the deficit. While having a tough shooting first half, Brian Jackson contributed by getting others involved. Jackson picked up two quick assists on a three-point field goal by reserve guard Jason Cable and a jumper by reserve forward Myles Howard.

Panther starting center Roderick Riley and Alcorn center Rhau-Chavis Landfair

See SWAC page 5



Photo by Gitonga M'Mbijewe

Coach Francis cuts the net after Prairie View's win against Alcorn on March 7. Prairie View played the same Alcorn team in the SWAC tournament but could not produce the same results, falling to the Braves, 64-71.

Hoover J. Wright, a gifted coach with an impressive record

By Steven Kennedy

Panther Staff

Coach Hoover J. Wright passed away March 7, after serving 41 years at Prairie View A&M University and achieving an impressive record as the head coach of the men's track and field team.

Words can't explain

how much Wright meant not only to the track & field program, but the entire university as well. During his tenure at the helm, he brought unlimited excitement and knowledge to the team and produced numerous SWAC track & field titles. Wright

was widely known for the discipline that he instilled in his athletes, and the knowledge he passed down to athletes he nurtured.

Some of the accomplishments that Wright achieved is leading the 1999-2000 track & field team to win

the SWAC indoor and outdoor championships, despite suffering a terrible van accident that same season.

Wright was an excellent motivator, always pushing his athletes to perform to the best of their abilities. "Coach Wright always knew

how to keep us going in the right direction. He always made us work hard, and knew ways to improve our speed," said Jack Owens, a Prairie View A&M sprinter.

See Wright page 5

•State•

PV's Seven Day Forecast

Wed Mar 19 Partly Cloudy 71°/50°

Thu Mar 20 Partly Cloudy 70°/45°

Fri Mar 21 Partly Cloudy 68°/48°

Sat Mar 22 Scattered T-Storms 69°/52°

Sun Mar 23 Cloudy 65°/48°

Mon Mar 24 Partly Cloudy 70°/53°

Tue Mar 25 Partly Cloudy 72°/53°

courtesy of
www.weather.com

•National•

College professor silent amid war threat

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (AP) — With the United States on the brink of war with Iraq, a University of Evansville professor who advises the Muslim student association has chosen to keep silent about his political views.

Mohammad Azarian, a mathematics professor from Iran, said he feared that expressing his opinions on U.S. foreign policy in the current national climate would seem anti-American.

"All the Muslims I know in this country love America and all its freedoms," said Azarian, now a U.S. citizen. "But right now, many don't feel free to express their opinions. Things have really changed."

At least part of Azarian's fears center on an increase in hate crimes. Last week, the U.S. Justice Department issued an alert to 18,000 local and state law enforcement agencies, predicting an increase if war begins with Iraq.

The FBI alert reminded police departments that such hate crimes have included slayings and attempted killings, violent assaults and arson attacks against mosques, Islamic centers and Arab-American-owned businesses.

•World•

Three nuns among about 30 Indians who won't leave Iraq

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Three nuns from the Mother Teresa-founded Missionaries of Charity are among about 30 Indians who have refused to leave Iraq in the event of war.

Eight other Indian charity workers, four students and 14 other officials also have decided to stay on as India evacuated its ambassador and diplomats from Iraq. The 14 officials are engaged in ventures supporting Iraq's Food-for-Oil program.

India's ambassador in Iraq, B.B. Tyagi, and his skeleton staff moved to Jordan's capital, Amman, on Monday. The Indian Embassy's premises in Baghdad will be looked after by its Iraqi staff.

Also Monday, the Indian government set up a crisis management group to monitor developments in the Middle East, Sarna said.

Safety of Indian workers in the Gulf and measures to tide over oil price volatility would be among the top concerns of the group, headed by a senior foreign ministry official.

Some 3.5 million Indians are employed in the Middle East, of which more than one-tenth are in Kuwait.

Saddam: Iraq once possessed weapons of mass destruction

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — President Saddam Hussein said Monday that Iraq once had weapons of mass destruction for defense against Iran and Israel but no longer holds them, the Iraqi News

"All Hail To The Queen..."



Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures/ Blackcollegewire.org

Actress, rapper, and former talk show host Queen Latifah will turn heads this Sunday at the 75th Annual Academy Awards on ABC. Latifah has been nominated for best supporting actress for her role in Chicago. Check Latifah out in her new film, Bringing Down The House, which is in theaters now.

Agency said.

The agency said Saddam made the remarks while meeting with a Tunisian envoy.

China announces evacuation of embassy in Iraq

BEIJING (AP) — China was evacuating its embassy staff in Iraq on Monday due to the "looming war", the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

The order for Ambassador Zhang Weiyou and six other officials to leave followed evacuation orders by a number of countries amid the "tense atmosphere of a looming war", Xinhua said.

It said six Chinese reporters also were leaving — two from Xinhua, three from Chinese state television and one from an uni-

identified Hong Kong news outlet.

British minister resigns over Iraq

LONDON (AP) — A senior British Cabinet minister resigned Monday after disagreeing with the government's decision to back military action against Iraq.

Robin Cook, a former foreign secretary, resigned his post as the government's leader in the House of Commons after a private meeting with Prime Minister Tony Blair shortly before a meeting of the full Cabinet, Blair's office said.

It said six Chinese reporters also were leaving — two from Xinhua, three from Chinese state television and one from an uni-

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Anyone who reads The Panther can submit a letter to the editor by fax, e-mail, or postal service. All submissions are subject to editing and must include the author's name and telephone number.

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The Panther office is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday. The offices are located in the Delco Building, Room 109.

Don't make excuses for not doing the job

By Eddie White

I'm upset with the fact that our police department uses excuses instead of doing its job. My car was burglarized this weekend in the Baby Dome parking lot, and the first answer I got from the police was "You never should have parked there, you should have parked behind Drew Hall where your car could be seen."

This is one of the examples of the police using excuses for not doing a good job of protecting a well-known burglary area. I'm a first year student here at P.V. I never knew that if you park your car on the side of the gym, your car stood a good chance of being burglarized. However the campus police knew this and have known this for years, yet they have yet to attempt to stake out and catch the culprits involved in this well-known crime area.

Even members on the football and b-ball team told me that cars have been getting burglarized in that parking lot for years.

Hello! This has been happening for years. No one has ever been caught stealing in this particular parking lot. What will it take for our campus police to protect us from being victims of this crime spree that everyone

just seems to accept?

I don't accept this at all. I think the campus police need to protect areas of high burglaries more so than areas where the threat is low. The campus police knew that students were going on the trip to Birmingham, Alabama for the SWAC Tournament and that it would be more convenient for students to park in the parking lots across and adjacent to the Baby Dome rather than park by Drew Hall, that is clearly out of the way. It's as if the police knew about the high potential of burglary in this area and did not stage any plot to catch a car thief in action.

We all know that the campus police would rather give you a traffic citation for finding somewhere to park than catching car thieves and campus burglars. In reporting this crime to law enforcement, it seems that the police don't care if your car is burglarized. They only care if you have insurance. Also rooms get burglarized in the phases. It's like no one ever sees these burglaries on campus.

I'm starting to think foul play. I overheard some guys on campus one day, talking about one of them finding a custodian in his room when he came home from Christmas break. Why

was the custodian there in this guy's room? He did not know why the custodian was there and neither could I think of a good excuse for the custodian being in this guy's room with him not there. Is this against the school policy? I don't know, but I do know that it should be.

Yes, my car was burglarized and I'm only doing this because of what happened to me. So what? Will it take your car or your room to be burglarized for you to take a stand on the campus police to do a better job of catching the ones responsible for these crimes?

I think the police should continue to secure all the gates to the phases as well as all areas where it is known that vehicles will be parked for more than one day at a time, such as the side of the Baby Dome when there is a function and it is more convenient for students to park

there instead of closer to the campus police department.

When organizations have functions out of town and it is convenient for them to park in the Hobart Taylor parking lot, another potential hot spot for car burglaries, the patrol cars should occupy this area in timed rotations.

I know that police can't be everywhere every time but if they know that cars are going to be parked in these particular lots for a few days i.e. for out of town school functions then they need to make some sort of effort to catch these criminals, just like they park and wait to see someone wait on a parking spot and get a ticket for blocking traffic. Are P.V. campus police, here to protect and serve or write traffic tickets and sleep at the gates to the phases at night? You'll find out just like I did, when you become a victim of these popular crimes.

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U.S, Britain urge citizens out of Kuwait; U.N. observers quit patrols on border

By Ellen Knickmeyer
Associated Press

The United States and Britain urged their citizens to leave Kuwait immediately as war loomed Monday, citing the risk of chemical or biological attack by Iraq or by terrorists.

The warning came as U.N. observers stopped all patrols at the heavily fortified Iraq-Kuwait border ahead of a possible U.N. evacuation. Iraq demanded the United Nations stop the scale-down of its staff, accusing it of abandoning its "responsibility in maintaining world peace and security."

The United States and Britain have nearly 300,000 troops in the Gulf, the bulk of them in Kuwait, poised for a possible invasion of Iraq.

President Bush on Sunday issued a one-day deadline for final diplomatic attempts to avert war, raising prospects that the start of fighting was just days away.

The State

Department ordered all government dependents and nonessential staff out of Kuwait, Syria, Israel and the West Bank and Gaza, citing the "deteriorating security situation in the region."

Britain likewise was paring its embassy to a skeleton staff Monday, and said it was closing the consular and visa sections as of Tuesday.

Both countries warned their nationals against travel to Kuwait, and urged nationals already here to get out, while commercial flights still are running.

"What we would like is for people to take that advice as I say, the word is 'urgently,'" a spokesman for the British Embassy said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

K u w a i t ' s international airport was calm early Monday, with no extra lines at ticket offices and no sign of a Western exit from the country.

With Kuwait the launch pad for any attack, its airport is expected to

close for civilian flights possibly, for several days if hostilities begin.

The British and U.S. warnings cited the possibility of attacks not just from Iraq, but from insurgents within Kuwait.

"The threat of terrorism, which is now high and which we believe will rise further in the event of hostilities ... also could involve the risk of chemical and biological weapons," the British Embassy spokesman said.

Any Americans remaining in Kuwait should exercise caution - avoiding crowds, keeping a low profile, and varying times and routes for any travel, the State Department said.

On Jan. 21, gunmen on a road south of Kuwait City ambushed a car carrying two American contractors for the U.S. military, killing one man and seriously wounding the other. The United States heightened its travel warning after that attack, and hiked it again as the last diplomatic efforts ground down.

Early Monday, the United Nations raised its

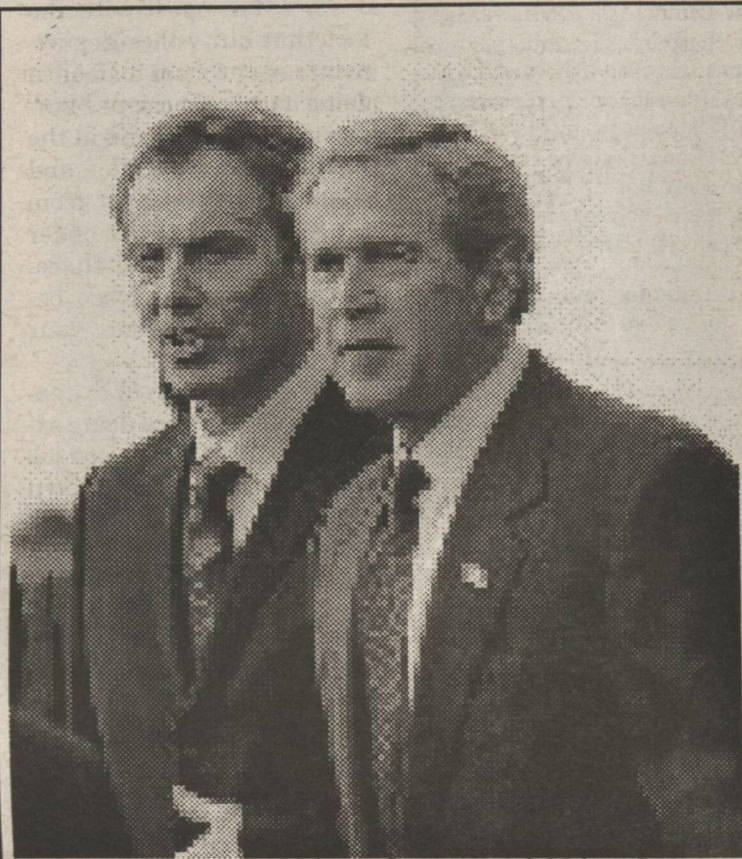


Photo Courtesy of: Yahoo Images
President George Bush and Prime Minister Tony Blair discuss the possible war with Iraq.

security alert on the Iraq-Kuwait border, and ordered monitors and other workers there to cease operations immediately.

U.N. monitors on the Iraq side of the 120-mile border were crossing to the Kuwait side.

U.N. observers have been patrolling the 16 mile wide demilitarized zone since shortly after the 1990-91 Gulf War. Kuwait has sealed the border with electrified fences, earthen berms and ditches, trying to guard against Iraqi incursions.

The U.N. observer mission pulled 400-500 peacekeepers from remote stretches of the border last week, saying the safety of their mission was no longer assured.

Monday, the remaining roughly 800 were gathering, awaiting expected word later in the day on whether to pull out entirely, said Daljeet Bagga, spokesman for the U.N. Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission.

"We are still in the DMZ, but we have stopped

our operations," Bagga said by telephone from the border.

Monday's halt marks stage four in the U.N. states of alert. Stage five would mean evacuation of U.N. employees.

The withdrawals started after U.N. monitors discovered what they said were at least three openings cut in the fence, and blamed U.S. Marines.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Naji Sabri complained Sunday about the U.S. and British military buildup in Kuwait, citing the breaches in the fence.

You Must Know:

- *This issue of The Panther is dedicated to Coach Wright
- *Pay attention to the terror alert
- *Lil Kim has her own record label (full story next week)

SWAC from page 1

picked up their third personal foul early in the second half. This forced both teams to switch their offensive and defensive attacks. The Braves often caught the Panthers off-guard by jumping into a zone immediately after scoring, forcing back-to-back turnovers in the backcourt. After trimming the Panther lead down to six on a Jackson three pointer, the Panthers broke the press, and converted on a three-point play by forward Malachi Thurston. This upped the PV lead to 51-42 with 11:56 remaining. Alcorn then switched to a man to man defense.

Missed free throws by the Panthers kept Alcorn in

the game. Unable to put away the Braves, the teams traded baskets for the next six minutes. With the score at 65-57 and 5:14 left, Alcorn scored five unanswered to bring them to 65-62. This was as close as they'd come. After a dunk by Riley, the Braves went cold, scoring only two points in the final 3:12 of the game. A baseline jam by PV guard Blannon Campbell shut the door on their second victory over Alcorn State.

"We were a little reserved in the second half, that's why we had to grind it out in the second half," said PV coach Jerome Francis Jr. PV field goal percentage dropped to 44.0% in the second half, while Alcorn field goal percentage rose from

33.3% in the first half to 45.5% in the second half.

Wright from page 1

Wright will also be remembered for the commitment he showed to his athletes by meeting their needs, and passing down useful advice to them as well. "He always carried a positive attitude, always smiling, never angry, and really showed commitment to the welfare of track & field. He was very, very, professional in everything that he did," said Dean Paul Mehta of the College of Education.

Wright always told his athletes, "Whenever you perform, perform at your best, because you never know when your last performance is going to be." He strongly believed in driving, encouraging, and doing whatever it took to get his athletes running up to their potential.

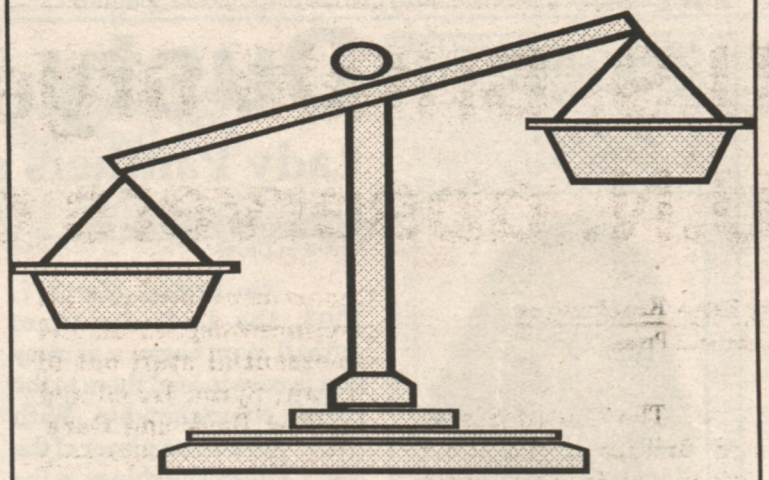
Wright really built Prairie View A&M men's track & field team from the ground up, going back to when he first took over as head coach of the men's track & field coach. He took part in bringing in world-class athletes, and molding them into even better athletes under his guidance. Wright once said, "When you work at the same job as long as I have, then you are kind of lost when you are not doing it."

A coach who worked alongside Wright for many years is Clifton Gilliard. Gilliard was the interim track & field coach for Prairie View A&M men's track team when Wright was recovering from the van accident in 2000. Gilliard himself has accomplished many things here at Prairie View A&M, achieving many of those laurels with Wright. Wright once stated, "My assistant coaches have been with me for so many years, and I really appreciate the help they have brought me."

We will always remember the triumph, excitement, knowledge, and accomplishments that Coach Hoover J. Wright brought to Prairie View A&M. Wright will definitely be remembered as not only a Prairie View A&M coaching giant, but also a SWAC track & field coaching legend.

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SGA Speaks Out

*Sophomore Class Week!

Tuesday, March 18

*Star Talent Show

Location: Animal Science Building Auditorium

Time: 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 19

*Teen Summit

Location: New Science Building

Rm.: 104

Time: 7 p.m.

Senate Meeting

Location: New Science Building

Rm.: 104

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 20

*Open Mic Night

Location: Phase 2 Clubhouse

Time: 7 p.m.

Friday, March 21

*Picnic at the Park

Location: Student Park

Time: 4 p.m.

You can still buy a sophomore class T-shirts in Alumni Hall for \$10 or contact Tracie and/or Ashley Smith x2220 or x4300

SGA Spring 2003 Elections have begun! Good luck to all the candidates!

Hope everyone had a wonderful Spring Break! Welcome back to the yard!

The P.E.A.C.E. Project provides guidance

By Kory J. Briggs
Panther Staff

Since February of 2000, PVAMU has been the home of an amazing program that reaches out to all students.

The P.E.A.C.E. project serves as PVAMU's dating violence and sexual assault crisis intervention center. The project opened with a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs.

The letters in P.E.A.C.E. stand for prevention, education, awareness, courage, and elimination. All of these are required in order to address sexual assault and other gender violence. Ms. Sylvia Cedillo directs the program and the program specialist is Ms. Susan Boggess. Ms.

Gay Wells serves as an outstanding advisor and there are two student workers.

There is a need for this project because sexual and relationship violence is no strangers to college campuses. Though this program exists, it does not imply that PVAMU is an unsafe campus. PVAMU works diligently to provide the safest learning environment possible.

The truth is that a person is most at risk for injury from those with whom we have relationships, which include a dating partner, spouse, roommate, classmate or acquaintance. That's why the Project promotes healthy relationships through education and advocacy.

The project's

mission is actually threefold. First, the project exists to increase campus awareness about gender and relationship violence. Second, to dispel myths about sexual assault and dating/domestic violence.

Lastly, to foster a climate which actively discourages all forms of gender and sexual violence.

Call or visit the project for further information on the third floor of Evans Hall in Room 313. The phone number is (936) 857-2008 and the email is peace@pvamu.edu. Let this calling go out to everybody, the P.E.A.C.E. project is here to serve the students of PVAMU because violence can be stopped and peace can be spread.

Tough Loss!



By Leona Aaron
Panther Staff

We were always taught that if life hands you lemons make lemonade. But what if you did all you could and still came up short. Our men's basketball team experienced heartbreak Friday at the SWAC tournament game against Alcorn State University. Coming into the game we were number one in SWAC and had beaten Alcorn twice. Unfortunately we came up short and our season ended.

They never gave up until the final buzzer. The guys suffered a tough loss but had a spectacular season to prove that they will be back next season and going straight to the top. The guys have brought back winning tradition to Prairie View. There were five buses lined up Thursday night state for a strenuous 12 or more hours bus ride to Alabama to support their team.

Despite the loss fans were still yelling "PVU who you rootin' for?" Even with the loss we excelled in so many other areas. PV's own Gregory Burks was named SWAC player of the year and teammate Malachi Thurston was name newcomer of the year. The men's basketball team brought back a fighting spirit to Prairie View campus and left us wanting more. Thanks for a wonderful season and for letting us join in for the ride. Next year they will be on the prowl again and we will be right there supporting you until the bitter end. There will be nothing in our way on the way to the top!

Dusty but clear road

Lady Panthers softball leads the SWAC with an 11-1 record

By Tenesia S. Mathews
Editor in Chief

On Friday, March 7, 2003, the Lady Panthers softball team began a journey that is sure to lead them to the SWAC championship. With SWAC pre-season player of the year Carolyn Hutchings at the helm, the Lady Panthers should be in contention for a trophy that reads CHAMPIONS, but Hutchings is not the only fireball on the under rated but most certainly good team. With newcomers, such as Jaime Cain who had 6 strike outs in their first SWAC game against the Southern Lady Jaguars, the these golden streaked Panthers are definitely not to be played with.

But this wouldn't be the first time nor the first team of ladies that has played under the direction of Coach A.D. James with a chance to go all the way in the SWAC championship. Since his hiring as head softball coach, A.D. James has led the Lady Panthers to either second or first place in the championship, but this year has a familiar but different ring to it. The Lady Panthers have some newcomers who are destined to become noticed in NCAA softball.

Newcomer, catcher Meghan Taylor has an arm that caught many Jaguars in the act of stealing bases, and during the course of the four games that the Lady Panthers played against Southern she left her mark on them literally because after a few tries the Lady Jaguars never tried to steal on the catcher again.

These ladies sent the Southern Jaguars home with a message that they (PV) were on the a dusty but clear road headed toward the SWAC championship. The Lady Panthers then headed toward Grambling State University where they swept the Lady Tigers four games to zero. Prairie View went on a hitting streak and scored eight runs in the second inning to put the game out of reach for the Lady Tigers. PV continued their scoring by adding a run in the third inning, one in the fourth and four in the fifth inning. GSU held a 1-0 lead until the

top of the fourth inning when the hit a homerun. Three batters later Kimberly Hayden hit another homerun that scored three runs for Prairie View and put them up 3-1. Grambling came back in the bottom of the inning when right fielder Monica Ward hit a single that scored first baseman Trameka Todd to bring GSU within a run 3-2. Prairie View's Hutchings connected on a triple and was batted in by PV's second baseman Jennifer Fernandez to bring the score to 4-2. GSU was not able to score as the Lady Panthers took the first game of a four-game series. These Lady Panthers have proved wrong all those who doubted their ability, dedication, and talent.

Last weekend the Lady Panthers continued on their path lined with orange dirt, and plowed right through University of Arkansas Pine

Bluff's Golden Lions. Now, the Lady Panthers lead the SWAC with an 11 - 1 record.



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Athlete of the Week

Name: *Larry Henderson*

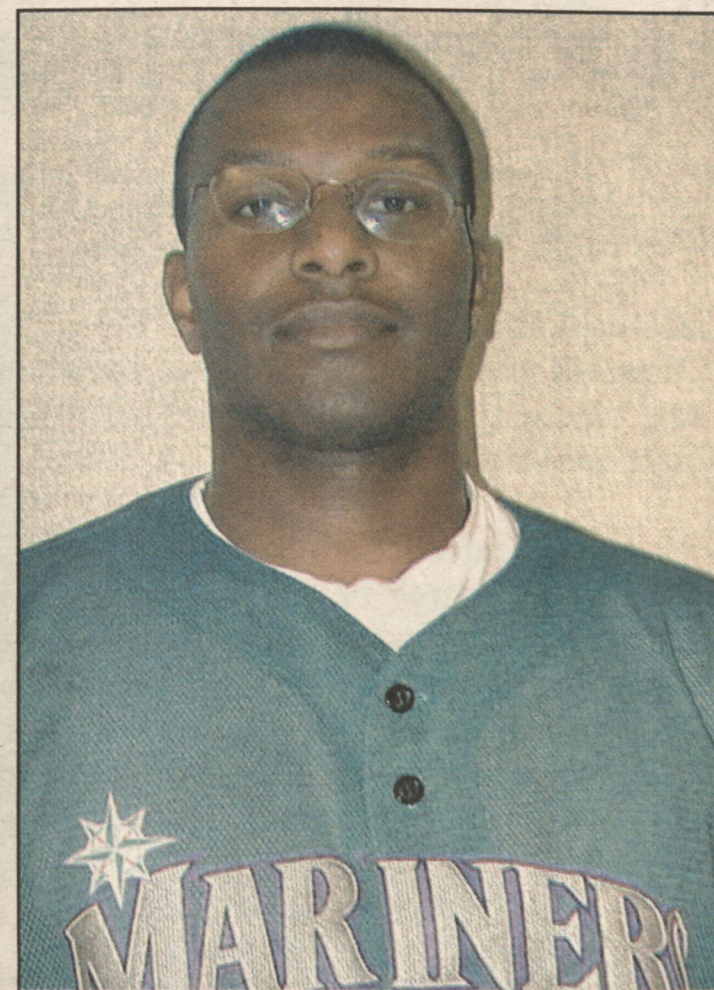
Classification: *Senior*

Height: *6'3"*

Weight: *215*

Position: *Pitcher*

Claim To Fame: *Throwing nothing but heat on the mound.*



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Prairie View A&M Interviews!

Information Meeting:
March 24, 2003 • 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Anderson Hall, Room 224

Interviewing:
March 25, 2003

BS or MS Degrees:
All Engineering and I.T. disciplines, Geoscience,
Chemistry, Physics, Math

Schlumberger

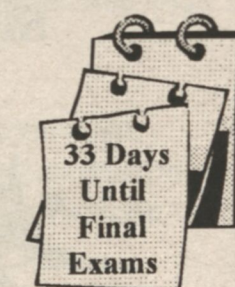
www.slb.com/careers



The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

University College Students:
Back to the Books!!



- ❑ You must take the TASP at least once every academic year.
- ❑ Check out the following URL: <http://calendars.pvamu.edu/> for information about our Quick TASP testing schedule or call 936/857-2747.
- ❑ **IF YOU HAD LESS THAN A 'C' OR 'S' IN A DEVELOPMENTAL CLASS AT MIDTERM, YOU MAY NOT EARLY REGISTER!!**

- The UC First Annual Black History Heritage Quiz Bowl was won by BLDG #39. The winning team members included: Maurice Jules, Jonathan Miller, Frank Lockman and Michael Jules. This team with the addition of Madison Hopkins replacing Michael Jules took 2nd in the campus wide Black History Quiz Bowl competition. Congratulations!!!

- Top academic UC Buildings for midterms are #37 & #35

- MIDTERMS A LITTLE SHAKY????

Tutoring is available in the UC Panther Room
Tuesdays/Thursdays from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Feds keeping tabs on foreign students

By Lovemore Masakadza
Black College Wire

Emma C. Mosby calls herself a "mother figure" to foreign students. Uncle Sam is watching foreign students, and with the help of university administrators, he's taking a pretty close look.

The government began monitoring visiting students more closely after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. In the following days, it was revealed that one of the hijackers in the World Trade Center attacks, Egyptian Mohammed Atta, was in the United States on a student visa.

The U.S. government introduced the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System in January to monitor the activities of foreign students during their stay in the country.

North Carolina Central University is one of 3,900 U.S. colleges and

universities that report to this database. Under the system, schools will work closely with immigration officials to make sure that foreign students remain in school, and that they are not national security risks.

"There have been cases where foreign students with student visas do enroll and drop out of school and never come back," said Emma C. Mosby of the university's Student Learning/Counseling Center. "And some don't even enroll at all."

Participating schools supply federal immigration offices with names, addresses, majors and information on disciplinary action taken against visiting students, as well as a record of any classes they drop.

Mosby said that her work not only helps the national security, but benefits the foreign students.

"I will be the mother

figure to the foreign students," said Mosby.

"I will know what they will be doing. If I want to see any one of them, I should know where to find them. I just have to know."

Junior physics major Ibrahim Cisse of Niger, the president of North Carolina Central's International Students Organization, said he understands why the U.S. government is tracking foreign students. And, besides, there's nothing he can do about it.

"I am not comfortable with a situation where I am tracked all the time, but I understand that the U.S. government is fighting terrorism," said Cisse. "I don't vote in the American elections, so I feel that the American people are the ones who should have a say on what their government does. I value the American education."

health hints

Panic Attacks

*Definition

Unpredictable attacks of anxiety that are accompanied by physiological manifestations.

*Causes, incidence, and risk factors

The exact cause of panic disorder is unknown. There is a clear influence of heredity. There may be a temporal lobe dysfunction, or the disorder may develop as a persistent pattern of maladaptive behavior acquired by learning.

*Prevention

Avoid stimulants such as caffeine and cocaine, and avoid alcohol use, if you are prone to panic attacks. Psychiatric intervention may be helpful.

*Symptoms

At least four or more of the following symptoms within ten minutes; or one or more attacks followed by at least one month of persistent fear of having another attack:

- * Shortness of breath
- * Dizziness or faintness
- * Palpitations
- * Trembling
- * Sweating
- * Choking
- * Nausea
- * Numbness or tingling
- * Chest pain or discomfort
- * Fear of dying
- * Fear of being out of control
- * Sleep disturbances
- * Skin, clammy
- * Heartburn
- * Agitation

www.yahoo.com/health

Clark cancels education courses to head off accreditation problem

By Camille Ferguson
Black College Wire

The School of Education at Clark Atlanta University has taken drastic measures this semester, canceling major courses in order to provide "multiple intervention" through an intense program to refresh students' reading, writing and math skills.

According to Dr. Fran Jackson, associate dean of the school, the decision to suspend upper-level courses in the curriculum for students who had not met the university or department's admission policy for passing Praxis I was made in the fall. Praxis is a national standardized test and passing it is a state requirement for teacher

certification.

"We admit to having some problems in the school," Jackson said. "But we are trying to address the problem before a visiting team of examiners come."

The team is the board of examiners from the National Council of Accreditation for Teacher Education, which in spring 2004 will determine whether the department meets the standards for maintaining accreditation.

NCATE will measure the university based on such standards such as academic competence, field experience, diversity and faculty qualifications.

Jackson emphasizes that the new

program, known as the STEPS semester, provides students with specialized training on generic test-taking strategies and skills, including weekly pre-professional seminars and tutorials.

"The faculty is working hard to ensure that the standards are met," Jackson said. "Students... had taken courses that were not benefiting them," she added. "Our enrollment in the pre-professional seminar is going well. We will be able to access its effectiveness."

The policy for admission into the teacher education program is that students are exempt from the exam only if they have an SAT score of at least 1000, a GRE score of 1030

or an ACT score of 22 or greater. It also says that students would not gain admission into the department without a passing score on Praxis.

Dr. Ernest Pete Middleton, dean of the School of Education, insists that most students were aware of the policy, but continued to enroll in restricted courses.

"It is criminal to have students come to this university and go through four years of school and not be able to teach," Middleton said.

Nevertheless, Middleton seems unapologetic about the new standards. He insists that students who continue to avoid taking the exam "will be advised out of the program."

Apparently, students who had not satisfied the admission requirement were given a grade of incomplete for the relevant courses they had taken and passed last semester, pending completion of the exam.

Students are not the only ones feeling the heat. According to Middleton, the university must produce a pass rate of 80 percent or higher to avoid a \$25,000 fine and a "low performance" evaluation by NCATE.

Both Jackson and Middleton indicate they have things under control.

"We are offering multiple intervention," Jackson said. "We are confident that students who participate will pass the course."

SGA Spring Candidates and Dates to Remember

President

Hendrick F. Maison
Marcus D. Joubert
Stacy Monique Lloyd

Vice-President

Trenise Green
Vivian Spikes

Vice-President of Academic Affairs

Vernon Lee Blanson, Jr.

Student Government Comptroller

Cristina Lee

Vice-President of Finance & Administration

Christopher M. Dudley

Vice-President of Student Enrollment & Services

Warren D. Hardy

Senator of University College

Quinlan Motley

March 25

2003 Spring General Election's Presidential and Vice-Presidential Debate
New Science Building, A101 at 6:30 p.m.

April 1

2003 Spring General Elections
West Wing of Alumni, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

April 8

Run-off Elections
Alumni Hall, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

If you have asthma we need your help!

Our physicians are currently conducting a clinical research trial to test the Foradil® Aerolizer™ in the treatment of asthma.

We're looking for mild to moderate persistent asthmatic adults and adolescents to participate in this 4 month long trial. To qualify you must be receiving an inhaled asthma medication for the past two or more months.

Qualified volunteers will receive all study related care at no charge, including 6 visits with study personnel, lab test and investigational medication.

If you, or someone you know, may qualify, please call for more information.

Clinical Trials North Houston
18220 Tomball Parkway, Suite 130
Houston, TX 77070
(832) 912-1188

The First Step is Your Call

SHARE AN EVENING WITH

The Alvin Ailey Dance Company

Friday, March 28, 2003 @ 8:00 PM
Live at Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts

Student Ticket: \$15.00
(Student ID required)

General Admission: \$32.00

Student transportation sponsored by Dept. of Student Activities & Leadership

Limited seats available (approx. 125 Orchestra 2 Section)
RSVP by Friday, March 21, 2003

If interested in the performance, call ext. 2018 for more information.

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Miss/Mr. PVAMU Scholarship Pageant MC Auditions
All Faiths Chapel @ 5:00 PM

Sign-up in
DSAL, W.F. Delco Bldg., RM 108 or JP All Faiths Chapel

For more information, call ext. 2018 or 4940



BET: not so black?



By NiRosha Smith
Panther Staff

A long time ago in a galaxy far away, there was a network called BET that reached 70 million households that provided programming from a black perspective. What happened to that network? They sold out! Not too long ago Viacom purchased BET. They also own CBS, MTV, VH1, and UPN. Now, maybe you can understand why "How I'm Living," and "Access Granted" mirror similar MTV programs.

Just how did Black Entertainment Television forget about MLK? I found that extremely disrespectful and disappointing. They've canceled quality programs such as "BET Tonight," "Teen Summit," and "Lead Story." It seems as if they only want to present us with music videos and reruns of "Comic View." This says to me that the network thinks we're completely unconcerned with issues around us. Even if most of us don't watch the news, they shouldn't have deserted us that way. Have you noticed that Ananda Lewis, La La, and Hits, have all worked for MTV?

The network describes itself as "the nation's leading 24-hour television network providing quality entertainment, news, and public affairs programming for the African-American audience." That statement doesn't have any merit anymore. If we're all in the same family, why aren't we getting the same funding and programming? If we don't take a stand, some things will never change.

Comedian Dave Chappelle tries "to reinvent the wheel"

By Trina Logan
Black College Wire

Picture a stock boy in a toy store. You watch this guy every Friday and Saturday yelling at kids for stealing, placing Nintendos inside cases and Barbies and G.I. Joes on the toy store's shelves. Then, one night, the guy in the toy store quits after earning \$50 at a comedy club. We're talking about the hilarious Dave Chappelle.

Born in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 23, 1972, Chappelle started out telling jokes on the streets and later progressed to opening in local comedy clubs.

His first comedy hour, on HBO in 2000, was "Killin' Them Softly," where he discussed his personal life and gave detailed observations about characters on the children's show "Sesame Street." Some fans may remember him as a regular act on "Russell Simmons' Def Comedy Jam."

"Def Jam didn't give me my start like it did Chris Tucker and Bernie Mac," said Chappelle during a phone interview. "If you did Def Jam on Friday, people will notice you at the mall or buy tickets for your show in that area, but that's it."

Chappelle is most known for his film roles in Mel Brooks' "Robin Hood: Men In Tights" (1993), "Half Baked" (1998) and "Undercover Brother" (2002). He has also played opposite Eddie Murphy and Tommy Davidson.

Chappelle's comedic material is so wild that when he guest-starred on "The Best D**n Sports Show," they tried to censor him. "I don't know why they bleeped my comments out. They asked me what was my sports fantasy and all I said was a three-way with Venus and Serena," said Chappelle.

Asked at Howard University what separated his television show from other variety programs, he said, "I'm just trying to reinvent the

wheel, push the envelope, and be funny."

Chappelle spoke about a street comedian named Charles Burnett, who he said was legendary.

"I was 18 and I used to watch him perform comedy on the train and in the streets. He actually showed me how to perform with no microphone, cover charge or drinks in front of you," said Chappelle.

"He stayed in the hospital from '92 to '95 and then he died. If I stopped doing television and movies today, because of him I would still be able to make money doing street comedy."



Photo courtesy of Dave Chappelle web site

Dave Chappelle, on a national tour that includes HBCUs, says "I'm just trying to reinvent the wheel, push the envelope, and be funny."

Rosa Parks finally gives up seat

By NiRosha Smith
Panther Staff

Despite the overwhelming controversy surrounding the film "Barbershop," The NAACP chose Cedric the Entertainer to host the Image Awards.

Cedric's character made unflattering remarks about civil rights leaders Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks. He said that other blacks also gave up their seats, but Parks received the credit because of her involvement with the NAACP. These comments ignited remarks from Rev. Jesse Jackson and Rev. Al Sharpton.

Kweisi Mfume, president of the NAACP, said that the uproar was "overblown." He'd hoped that by choosing Cedric, the smoke would clear. Instead, it brought about more discussion.

Producers, directors, and screenwriters for the

show apologized for their comments. They also stated that they maintained the right to make fun of the situation.

The film proves that it didn't support the remarks because the other characters became upset. Although many people were upset over the remarks, the film still grossed \$75 million.

Cedric has had four Image Awards for his role in "The Steve Harvey Show." He stars in his own variety show on Fox, "Cedric the Entertainer Presents," which was nominated for an outstanding variety show award.

"The Rosa Parks Story" was nominated for an award in the category for outstanding TV movie, miniseries or dramatic special. Representatives for the 90-year-old activist said that she would be boycotting the awards ceremony.

Elaine Steel, a friend

of Parks and co-founder of the Rosa & Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development, stated: "We, with many others do not understand the endorsement the NAACP gave to the hurtful jokes in the movie 'Barbershop,' about America's civil rights leaders."



Photo courtesy of Google images

Parks made history in 1955 when she was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a city bus.

UPN ventures into hip hop

Associated Press Writer
Associated Press

"Platinum," a UPN series billed as the first network hip-hop drama, is poised to make its debut next month.

Hip-hop already is embraced by movies, fashion and any number of other industries — try counting the commercials with a rap beat.

"Hip-hop is very multicultural and we want to make the show multicultural, but it's still ingrained in black culture and there's just not a lot of venues serving people of color," he said. "It's a struggle. A lot of networks are just ignoring a segment of the population."

"There's been such a tremendous paradigm shift," said "Platinum" star Lalanya Masters. "We're now in a society where the No. 1 golfer is African-American and the No. 1 rapper is Caucasian-American."

But it took three years for Ridley and co-creator Sofia Coppola to get "Platinum" on the air, during which time a deal with HBO fell through and the project was at Fox "for a minute," as Ridley puts it. (Coppola's father, Francis Ford Coppola, is an executive producer of the show.)

Masters, Jason George, Sticky Fingaz, Steven Pasquale and Davetta Sherwood, N'Bushe Wright and Vishiss star in the series, which debuts with a special episode 9 p.m. EST Monday, April 14 (followed by a second hour in its regular time period, 9 p.m. EST Tuesday, April 15).

In the ripped-from-the-headlines style of "Law & Order," "Platinum" intends to explore real issues and conflicts in the music industry through the series' fictional characters, Ridley said.

"The headline is that somebody pulls a gun at a club and Puffy and J.Lo (Sean "P. Diddy" Combs and Jennifer Lopez) were there and it's in People magazine. But what happens to the person who

got shot or what happens to Puffy and J.Lo when their names are in the paper and they have to deal with it?"

Guest artists will perform but "Platinum" won't be simply a music video anthology, Ridley said: "If we're just chasing what's on MTV, we're going to be in a pretty bad place."

Will the violence that has led to some hip-hop artists' deaths, including Tupac Shakur and Christopher "The Notorious B.I.G." Wallace be part of "Platinum"?

It won't be avoided but it won't be sensationalized, Ridley said. "I try to curb violence. I'm just not big on putting violence on screen," he said, adding it's more likely to be implied than shown.

Editor's Old School Picks

1. Mokenstef- He's Mine
2. Shai- If I ever Fall In Love
3. Brownstone- If You Love Me
4. Troop- All I Do is Think Of You
5. Janet Jackson- Let's Wait A While
6. Subway- This Little Game We Play
7. Jade- Don't Walk Away
8. Al B. Sure- Night and Day
9. Karen White- Superwoman
10. Bobby Brown- Tenderoni

Samson's Kryptonite
By Thanes Queenan

My thoughts are consumed by your next touch's arrival.
Your essence has become essential to my very survival.
Like LOVE JONES, except I won't leave you and steal off into the night.
Like Samson and Delilah bald I lose all my strength and my might.
The curves of your hips like a famous artist fantasizing.
Your eyes so deep and melodiously hypnotizing.
The taste of your lips so sweet as the sweetest peach made ripe.
Like ecstasy poured from heaven's cup for my body's delight.
If God were an artist he'd paint you.

If your body belonged to another man I would don a black ski mask and steal you.
You are my guide. The only way out of my heart's endless maze.
If money had to be put on your worth the zeros would spill off the page.
If I had but one hour left, I'd spend 1 second getting to you
and 59 minutes and 59 seconds

Loving you
Holding you
Pleasing you

You are like joy caught and made into a physical form.
Until I met you it was as if I'd never been born.

The passion drug you push has me like a fiend
If you are a culmination of all my heart's every dream.

Let's write the last words in our fairy tale book's page.
Happily ever after is the way the TV version will be played.

If you give me a chance, I know I could succeed.

Like weed your body's got me hungry for just one lick just one tease.

The player in me is unable to continue or put up a fight.

The pimp in me is brought to his knees by your love's kryptonite.

Is it love? Is it lust? Who knows...

maybe a wicked, intoxicating combination of both.

Do I fight it? No... don't think so appetizing...revitalizing...mesmerizing.
And I like it

Internship Opportunity

Special to the Panther

The office of Bio-medical & Behavioral Research in Research & Development is hosting three information sessions for students interested in PAID summer internships with NIH (National Institutes of Health).

These will be held in John B. Coleman Library Monday, March 24, from 10:00-10:30 a.m. or 1:00-1:30 p.m. & Tuesday, March 25, from 1:00-1:30 p.m. The application deadline is April 1. For more information please contact Dr. Queen, Martin or Estrelita Bailey at ext#4494/2056.

1. Who actually passed midterms? 2. Who stretched Spring Break through Monday? 3. Why do girls still wear butterfly clips and doughnuts in their hair? 4. Who drove to the SWAC tournament and didn't make it? 5. Who thought it was going to stay warm? 6. Who made the calls from Hendrick's room? 7. Who was smoking one foot away from a gas tank? 8. Do you know that most of these questions are about the Alabama trip? 9. Why does everyone drive a Galant? 10. Are they buy one get one free? 11. Who flooded KFC? 12. Who remembers the Iotas? 13. Are they ever going to have another line? 14. Why did PV grocery downsize its chicken salads? 15. Why couldn't they downsize the price? 16. If the budget is so low, how could we afford that scrolling marquee at the front of the campus? 17. Who threatened the Alcorn State basketball coach? 18. Which history teacher needs to retire soon? 19. Who actually knows how many hours they can take in summer school? 20. What do you think?

This is for entertainment only. The questions submitted are not the views of The Panther. Want to tell us what you think? Please bring your comments and questions to Rm. 109 Delco or e-mail panther@pvamu.edu. Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther

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john franco poster: \$20

2003 game schedule: \$0

trophies: \$0

subscription to "baseball america": \$62

foam finger: \$6

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